

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ORDER NO. 1557

IN THE MATTER OF:

Application of ARTHUR J. THOMAS)	Served May 20, 1976
T/A GOLDEN EAGLE SIGHTSEEING)	
TOURS for Certificate of Public)	Application No. 937
Convenience and Necessity to)	
Perform Special Operations)	Docket No. 328

By Application No. 937, filed April 30, 1976, Arthur J. Thomas trading as Golden Eagle Sightseeing Tours (Golden Eagle) seeks a certificate of public convenience and necessity pursuant to Title II, Article XII, Section 4(b) of the Compact. Golden Eagle seeks authority to transport passengers, over irregular routes, in special operations, between points within the District of Columbia, Arlington County, Va., and Fairfax County, Va.

Golden Eagle proposes to render individually ticketed sightseeing service. It would offer tours service including visits to the United States Capitol Building, the Bureau of Printing and Engraving, the White House, the Smithsonian Institution, the Washington Monument, the Kennedy gravesites, and Mount Vernon. The proposed sightseeing service would be rendered in a 13 passenger van. The per capita fare would be \$10 for persons 12 years or older and \$5 for persons less than 12 years.

Title II, Article XII, Section 4(b) of the Compact provides as follows:

When an application is made under this section for a certificate, . . . , the Commission shall issue a certificate to any qualified applicant therefor, . . . , if it finds, after hearing held

upon reasonable notice, that the applicant is fit, willing and able to perform such transportation properly and to conform to the provisions of this Act and the rules, regulations, and requirements of the Commission thereunder, and that such transportation is or will be required by the public convenience and necessity; otherwise such application shall be denied.
(Emphasis added.)

Pursuant to this mandate, the Commission shall schedule a hearing to develop an appropriate record. Golden Eagle shall be assessed an amount preliminarily estimated to be sufficient to cover the expenses which the Compact, Title II, Article XII, Section 19(a) requires the carrier to bear.

The reason for the hearing is to fully develop the basis for any findings as to Golden Eagle's fitness to perform the proposed transportation service and the existing requirements of the public convenience and necessity for the proposed transportation service. Golden Eagle shall be required to submit and be prepared to support with a competent witness a statement projecting revenues and revenue deductions, including taxes, for a one year period, together with supporting details, including the ratio between revenue deductions and revenues. Golden Eagle shall be directed to file six (6) copies of the statement with the Commission and serve one copy on each party of record on or before June 9, 1976. Golden Eagle shall be prepared to present evidence that public convenience and necessity require permanent authorization of the proposed service.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. That Application No. 937 of Arthur J. Thomas trading as Golden Eagle Sightseeing Tours be, and it is hereby, scheduled for public hearing to commence Wednesday, June 16, 1976, at 9:30 A. M., in the Hearing Room of the Commission, Room 314, 1625 I Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

2. That Arthur J. Thomas trading as Golden Eagle Sightseeing Tours publish notice in the form prescribed by the staff of the Commission of such application and hearing

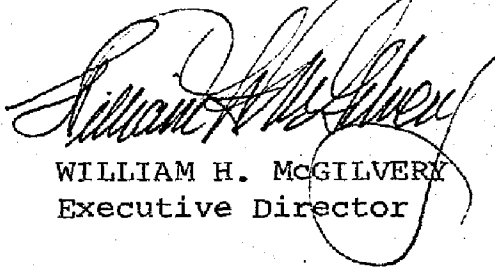
in a newspaper of general circulation in the Metropolitan District no later than Thursday, May 27, 1976, and present at the hearing a certificate of publication from the selected newspaper.

3. That six (6) copies, the original to be submitted at the hearing, of the projection statement required hereinbefore be filed by Arthur J. Thomas trading as Golden Eagle Sightseeing Tours with the Commission and one copy served on each party of record on or before Wednesday, June 9, 1976.

4. That any person desiring to protest shall file a protest in accordance with Commission Rule 14, or any person desiring to be heard on this matter shall notify the Commission, in writing, on or before Monday, June 7, 1976, and shall mail a copy of such protest or notice to Arthur J. Thomas, Golden Eagle Sightseeing Tours, 3103 Romain Court, Suitland, Md. 20023.

5. That Arthur J. Thomas trading as Golden Eagle Sightseeing Tours be, and it is hereby, assessed \$200 pursuant to the provisions of the Compact, Title II, Article XII, Section 19 and directed to deliver said amount to the office of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Commission, Room 314, 1625 I Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., on or before Wednesday, June 9, 1976.

FOR THE COMMISSION:



WILLIAM H. MCGILVER
Executive Director